

The following information was extracted from notes provided by Linnton Community Center. The notes were based on 23 conversations with individuals living/camping near the Willamette River in 2003-4.

### **Amar & Elizabeth**

- ❑ Living in camp trailer and old car off Marina Way
- ❑ Came from Texas a few months ago
- ❑ Move around every few days
- ❑ Park on vacant industrial land and old roads/parks located between Willbridge and St. Helens.
- ❑ Fish in Superfund area in Multnomah Channel and in the Willamette.
- ❑ Estimated age: 40-50
- ❑ They had been catching crawdads and sturgeon wanted to know the best fishing places.
- ❑ Mostly cook in frying pan on cook stove or boil.
  - Make fish head soup

### **Mark & Sue**

- ❑ Live in a car- move around up and down river
- ❑ Age: early teens/late twenties
- ❑ Fish for trout, sturgeon, steelhead, bass, squawfish.
- ❑ Cook fish over campfires on a grill or in frying pan
- ❑ Catch squawfish for money- the “state” pays them
- ❑ Bathe with river water, but do not drink river water
- ❑ Park in abandoned industrial lots, sides of old roads
- ❑ Move around every night to avoid being found by police
- ❑ Don’t know how long will stay in area.

### **Dave**

- ❑ Fishing at beach in Linnton
- ❑ Fishes off shore for sturgeon, steelhead, salmon, bass, crawdads, whatever he can catch
- ❑ Would not disclose exact location where he camps
- ❑ Bathes and swims in river.
- ❑ Cooks fish however he can (over a fire, usually)
- ❑ Puts net out for crawdads, pulls net up to the top of the water for a couple of days to let the clean water run through them for a couple of days before he boils them to eat.

### **Dave 2**

- ❑ Fishes in Linnton area
- ❑ Catches catfish to sell to Vietnamese
- ❑ Eats bass, salmon, sturgeon
- ❑ Bathes in creek in Forest Park
- ❑ Bathes in river when camped by river

**John**

- ☐ Stays in his boat at Fred's Marina.
- ☐ Takes people fishing for money
- ☐ Eats all fish and crawfish
- ☐ Bathes in river, buys water to drink
- ☐ Eats "whatever's running"
- ☐ Mostly fries the fish he catches
- ☐ Does not eat "junk fish"

**Joe**

- ☐ Age: 50 yrs. Old
- ☐ Lives in camp off Marina Way
- ☐ Friends give him fish or he eats fish with friends at their camps (does not fish himself)

**Wayne**

- ☐ Stays in Forest Park
- ☐ Fishes with John on Willamette and Multnomah Channel.
- ☐ Catches squawfish to sell
- ☐ Eats sturgeon, bass, catfish, "whatever is biting"
- ☐ Bathes in river

**Scott**

- ☐ Lives in Forest Park when doesn't have place to stay.
- ☐ Fishes for bass or whatever he can catch.

**John and friend**

- ☐ Live up trail on west side of St. John's bridge- Forest Park
- ☐ Fish for whatever they can catch.
- ☐ Won't eat squawfish, carp, or suckers (too bony).
- ☐ Drinks from creeks

**Mark**

- ☐ Just passing through
- ☐ Catches anything he can, eats anything edible (clams, carp, shad, suckers.)
- ☐ Bathes in river

**Ben V.**

- ☐ Lives off river and in Forest Park.
- ☐ Catches whatever he can
- ☐ Throws back carp, suckers.
- ☐ Uses crawdads and clams for bait.
- ☐ Does not drink river water (drinks from creeks running into Willamette)

**Ken**

- ☐ Camps, bathes, and fishes on river.

- ❑ Eats clams, crawdads, bass, anything he can beg or catch
- ❑ Drinks from creeks

### **Rod**

- ❑ Lives in tree house in Linnton area
- ❑ Bathes in and drinks from creek
- ❑ Fishes every once in a while (mostly for catfish, sometimes bass)
- ❑ Sometimes eats clams because easy to find.

### **Darren**

- ❑ Fishes in Linnton
- ❑ Camps in St. John's

### **Family**

- ❑ Live in Linnton area in school bus, ambulance and several cars.
- ❑ Have 10 children from ages 2-22 that have lived with them in cars
- ❑ They eat fish when it is given to them by fishermen (they themselves do not fish)
- ❑ The steel yard where they have lived is by a beach that is frequently used by fishermen.
- ❑ They cooked the fish and all of their food in pans on a stove

### **Randy**

- ❑ Stays in his boat
- ❑ Bathes in river

### **Casey**

- ❑ Fishes on east side of the river
- ❑ Eats whatever he catches (except for suckers) and cooks it in a frying pan on cooking stove.

### **Two women**

- ❑ Temporarily camped near Willbridge, asked about good fishing spots.

### **Man and Girlfriend**

- ❑ Ages: 50 & 30 yrs.
- ❑ Fish for everything, whatever is biting
- ❑ Don't eat "Junk fish" (carp, squawfish or suckers)
- ❑ Usually fry fish, sometimes barbeque if weather is good
- ❑ Bathe in water
- ❑ Haul drinking water in containers from gas station

### **Ken**

- ❑ Stays in van behind gas station
- ❑ Fishes at power poles
- ❑ Fishes for bass, catfish and fishes for squawfish for money
- ❑ Cooks on little campstove

**Randy and John**

- ❑ Move camps up and down river from St. Helen's to Willbridge.
- ❑ Fish for sturgeon, catfish, bass, crappie, and squawfish (for money).

**Ken**

- ❑ Lives on beach below steel yard (camp made of tarps)
- ❑ Fishes for edible fish only (no suckers or carp). Cooks on fires
- ❑ Bathes in river
- ❑ Sometimes drinks from river, but he heats the water up

**Lewis**

- ❑ Age: 50 years; African-American
- ❑ Lived by river in camp for 6 or 7 years
- ❑ Relies on river for food; does not eat "junk fish"
- ❑ Uses crawdads for bait.